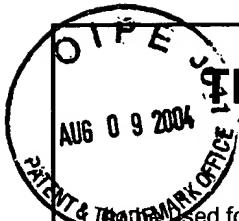
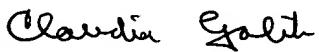


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 <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <small>Use for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>		Application No.	09/518,551		
		Filing Date	3 MARCH 2000		
		First Named Inventor	Govindaraju GNANASIVAM		
		Examiner Name	KING, JUSTIN		
		Group Art Unit	2111		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	7	Attorney Docket No.	A-66977/RMA(125196-91)		
<b>ENCLOSURES</b> (check all that apply)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, No. of CD(s) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return receipt postcard	
Remarks				<b>RECEIVED</b>	
				AUG 10 2004 Technology Center 2100	
<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>					
Firm or Individual name	R. Michael Ananian, Reg. No. 35,050 DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP 4 Embarcadero Center, Suite 3400 San Francisco, CA 94111 Telephone : 650 494 8700		Customer Number 32940		
Signature					
Date	August 5, 2004				
<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b>					
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">8/5/04</span>					
Typed or printed name	Claudia Galik				
Signature				Date	August 5, 2004



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. A-66977/RMA (125196-91)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  GNANASIVAM, et al.  Serial No.: 09/518,551  Filing Date: 3 MARCH 2000  For: <b>APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING RAID DEVICES IN A CLUSTER COMPUTER SYSTEM</b>	Examiner: KING, JUSTIN  Group Art Unit: 2111  Confirmation No: 5668  <u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u> I hereby certify that this correspondence and its listed enclosures is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>August 5, 2004</u> . Signed <u>Claudia Galik</u> Claudia Galik
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**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

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P.O. Box 1450  
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Technology Center 2100

Sir:

Following is Applicants' response to the final Office Action mailed 6 May 2004. A response is due 6 August 2004, making this a timely response. Please amend the application as indicated on the following pages, and consider the remarks herein. While Applicant believes that no further fees are due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due as a result of filing this amendment, including additional claims fees not already paid for, or other fees that have not been separately paid, to Deposit Account 50-2319 (Order No. A-66977/RMA (125196-91)).

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.**